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ROBERT C. GALLO, M. D.
Building 37, Room 6A11
National Institutes of Health
Bethesda, Maryland 20892

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Dear Maxine,

I look forward to a discussion with you. Things are so confused & confusing to me.

One suggestion made to me is to have an open NIH "Town Forum" with press invited, & I answer questions all day long. Whereas this has some attractive aspects to me others have advised against it, saying it is too "risky" & provides too many possibilities for volatile press interactions.

Nonetheless, I must find

some pathway, some mechanism
to clarify a few key issues
& perhaps also to make
apologies for managerial
imperfections etc. & anywhere
else people think it is needed.

The key thing is that people
have a small fraction of the
story, & is perpetually misconstrued
to the advantage of the French
government. Mitterrand is openly
using this to hide from their
blood test scandal which somehow
rarely is mentioned here. Of course,
Duggell-Stockton et al are another
& more serious matter. Joe Oreb
has prepared a "white paper" which is written
clearly & clarifies many, perhaps all, of
the points, but I am unsure what to
do with it.
Hope we talk soon. Regards & thanks,
Bob